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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY Austria

REPORT

TOPIC Billets of a Soviet Signal Unit in Hirtenberg

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

19 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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On 14 September 1953, [redacted] a Soviet troop train, which had come from the direction of Wiener Neustadt (O 48/X 34), was unloaded at the railroad station of Leobersdorf (O 48/X 36). The train consisted of cars of the Hungarian State Railways, and crossed the Austrian border northwest of Sopron (P 48/X 63) as was evident from the transit slips. The train included 2 boxcars with six officers, who wore black-bordered black epaulets and included a major as ranking officer, and an estimated 100 soldiers, who wore black-bordered black epaulets; 2 boxcars with wire, telephone wires, insulators and other signal and telephone equipment; 3 flatcars with telegraph poles, billeting equipment and one field kitchen; other flatcars which carried trucks [redacted]

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[redacted] truck [redacted] with a two-wheeled 500-liter tank trailer, truck [redacted] with [redacted] trailer, jeep [redacted] and two two-wheeled support trailers for timber. Motor vehicles which arrived at the railroad station of Leobersdorf from the direction of Hirtenberg (O 48/X 26) and were to be shipped away included truck [redacted], driven by a soldier wearing black-bordered black epaulets, and one Stalin tractor with a six-wheeled trailer. The latter were loaded with the telegraph poles on the train. After determining the convoy left for [redacted] former factory in Hirtenberg.

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Its entrance was guarded by a soldier wearing black-bordered black epaulets, who carried a submachine gun. After being unloaded in the factory part of the motor vehicles returned to the railroad station in Leobersdorf to pick up other items.

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Comment. A guard unit for the ammunition depot at Lindenberg previously occupied the former home for officers' orphans in Hirtenberg. The new unit recently billeted in the town is believed to be a signal unit and had presumably been in Austria previously since three motor vehicle [redacted] are known from Wiener Neustadt and Moedling. The unit may be element of the group which constructed permanent lines in Hungary.

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